

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KARACH 02056 280925Z

42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 AID-20 /140 W

----- 087918

R 280820Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7574

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY DACCA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KARACHI 2056

E.O. 11652: N/A (DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT)

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJECT: BALUCHISTAN: SEPT. 28 ASSEMBLY SESSION

LIKELY TO BE LIGHTLY ATTENDED

REF: (A) KARACHI &852

(B) KARACHI 1750

BEGIN SUMMARY: ON CONVENING OF BALUCHISTAN ASSEMBLY  
SESSION SEPT. 28 AS MANY AS 10 OF ASSEMBLY'S 21 MEMBERS  
MAY EITHER BOYCOTT SESSION TOTALLY, OR BOYCOTT SESSION  
FOLLOWING TAKING OATHS OF OFFICE UNDER NEW CONSTITUTION.  
ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN SPECULATION BACKGROUND NEGOTIA-  
TIONS HAVE BEEN UNDERWAY TO ACHIEVE RESOLUTION OF POLI-  
TICAL IMPASSE IN THE PROVINCE SINCE PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO'S  
EARLY SEPT. TOUR, LITTLE OF THIS SPECULATION SOUNDS  
CREDIBLE AND WHILE SOME 11TH HOUR DEVELOPMENT CANNOT  
BE RULED OUT, IT APPEARS MORE THAN LIKELY ASSEMBLY WILL  
CONVENE AS PLANNED, ATTENDANCE WILL BE POOR AND IMPASSE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KARACH 02056 280925Z

WILL CONTINUE. END SUMMARY

1. THIN ATTENDANCE: SEPTEMBER 26 BALUCHISTAN NAP PROVINCIAL WORKING COMMITTEE DECIDED THAT PARTY MEMBERS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ASSEMBLY SPEAKER BAROZAI WOULD NOT ATTEND THE ASSEMBLY SESSION. WHILE 2 OF THE 3 JUI MPAS HAVE ABANDONED THEIR COALITION WITH NAP AND JOINED CURRENT GOVERNMENT IT LIKELY JUI MPA SHAMSUDDIN WILL FOLLOW LEAD OF HIS NAP COLLEAGUES. FOUR NAP MPAS-- MENGAL, MARRI, GUL KHAN NASEER, AND SHER ALI KHAN-- LIKELY REMAIN IN CUSTODY SEPTEMBER 28. ONE OTHER NAP MPA, ABDUL REHMAN, HAS BEEN ABSENT FROM THE PUBLIC SCENE SINCE AUGUST 16 ROUNDUP OF NAP LEADERS AND IS THOUGHT TO BE UNDERGROUND OR OUTSIDE OF THE COUNTRY. THREE ADDITIONAL NAP MPAS AND POSSIBLY THE LADY MPA FAZEELA ALIANI, EXPECTED TO CONFORM WITH PARTY'S DECISION. ASSEMBLY THUS LIKELY TO BE FACED WITH PROSPECT OF MEETING WITH ONLY 10 MEMBERS AND SPEAKER PRESENT FOR LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS FOLLOWING CEREMONIAL SWEARING IN. ISSUE HAS BEEN RAISED THAT IF NAP MEMBERS FAIL TO ATTEND SESSION AND TAKE OATH UNDER NEW CONSTITUTION, THEY MAY JEOPARDIZE THEIR SEATS. IF THIS APPEARS REAL HAZARD, IT IS EXPECTED THAT MEMBERS WILL ATTEND OATH TAKING CEREMONY AND THEN COMMENCE THEIR BOYCOTT. AT SEPTEMBER 27 PRESS CONFERENCE IN QUETTA, NAP MPA AHMED NAWAZ BUGTI, WITH DEPUTY ASSEMBLY SPEAKER, JUI MPA SHAMSUDDIN PRESENT, STATED THAT NAP/JUI WOULD ATTEND SESSION ONLY IF DETAINED NAP MNA'S-- BIZENJO AND DR. ABDUL HYE BALUCH--AND MPAS WERE RELEASED UNCONDITIONALLY.

2. IS THERE A DEAL IN THE WORKS?: NAP MPA SHER ALI KHAN, ARRESTED ON JULY 9, WAS SENTENCED ON AUGUST 8 TO 28 YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE OF RS. 19,000. BECAUSE OF THE CONVICTION, SHER ALI'S ASSEMBLY SEAT WAS DECLARED VACANT AND PREPARATIONS FOR A BYE-ELECTION TO BE HELD OCTOBER 5 WERE MADE. SUBSEQUENTLY, ON SEPTEMBER 23 CONVENING AUTHORITY OF SPECIAL TRIBUNAL WHICH CONVICTED SHER ALI, REDUCED HIS 28-YEAR SENTENCE TO 18 MONTHS AND THE FINE TO RS. 3,000. FOLLOWING THIS THE ELECTION COMMISSION RESTORED SHER ALI'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KARACH 02056 280925Z

SEAT AND CANCELLED SCHEDULED BYE-ELECTION. ON SEPTEMBER 27, THE SEAT OF ANOTHER NAP MPA, GUL KHAN NASEER, ARRESTED JUNE 10, SENTENCED SEPTEMBER 20 TO 3 YEARS SIMPLE IMPRISONMENT, WAS DECLARED VACANT. IF GUL KHAN NASEER'S SEAT IS RESTORED, AS WAS SHER ALI'S, IT WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE AUTHORITIES HAVE DECIDED THAT THE DEVICE OF UNSEATING OF NAP MPAS BY PURSUING CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST THEM IS TO BE ABANDONED FOR

THE TIME BEING. THERE HAVE BEEN FREQUENT PRESS REPORTS OF VARIOUS FIGURES FROM BALUCHISTAN MEETING WITH MENGAL, MARRI AND BIZENJO FOR THE PURPOSE OF EFFECTING A POLITICAL RAPPROACHMENT, BUT IT IS DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH WHAT, IF ANY, CONCRETE PROPOSALS WERE CONSIDERED IN THESE MEETINGS. ANY PACKAGE WOULD REQUIRE THE RATIFICATION OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND IT IS NOT VERIFIABLE THAT THERE IS ANY CONCRETE PROPOSAL TO PRESENT TO HIM, EVEN THOUGH GOP MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS GHULAM MUSTAFA JATOI TRAVELED TO QUETTA SEPTEMBER 27 AND HELD MEETINGS WITH GOVERNOR BUGTI.

3. COMMENT: ATTENDANCE AT THE ASSEMBLY SESSION WILL GIVE SOME CONCRETE INDICATION OF CONTINUING NAP COHESION. SUCCESSFUL BOYCOTT WOULD ILLUSTRATE CLEARLY THAT IT IS THE NAP WITH WHOM PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO MUST DEAL, RATHER THAN IT'S PROVINCIAL OPPOSITION, IF HE WISHES TO RESOLVE IMPASSE WHICH HAS EXISTED IN PROVINCE SINCE FEBRUARY 15 DISMISSAL OF NAP/JUI MINISTRY. WHILE SOME 11TH HOUR DEVELOPMENT CANNOT BE RULED OUT, IT APPEARS MORE THAN LIKELY ASSEMBLY WILL CONVENE, ATTENDANCE WILL BE POOR, AND IMPASSE WILL CONTINUE. TIGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BOUNDARY CLAIMS, BOYCOTTS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973KARACH02056  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** KARACHI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t1973094/aaaaacmo.tel  
**Line Count:** 138  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** (A) KARACHI &852  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <18-Jan-2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BALUCHISTAN: SEPT. 28 ASSEMBLY SESSION LIKELY TO BE LIGHTLY ATTENDED  
**TAGS:** PINT, PK, NAP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005